

With the establishment of a county, officers were needed to administer judicial affairs. John W. Witt was elected probate judge by the Territorial Legislature and on February 22, 1862 he conducted the first session of county court. The minutes of the first meeting are as follows:

REPORT OF THE COUNTY COURT OF WASATCH COUNTY IN THE TERRITORY OF UTAH

Special Term

John W. Witt, Presiding

The judge organized the county court by appointing the following officers: Thos. Todd, James Duke and John H. Van Wagoner, selectmen.

The court then proceeded to appoint John Harvey, assessor and collector; Snelling M. Johnson, sheriff; John M. Murdock, treasurer; John Sessions, surveyor; Thos. H. Giles, superintendent of common schools.

The court then divided the county into precincts as follows:

All that portion of country on the east side of Provo River hereby declared precinct No. 1 and all that portion of Provo valley on the west side of Provo River shall be called precinct No. 2. The court then appointed the following precinct officers: Thos. Aarban, justice of the peace for precinct No. 1; Zemira Palmer, constable. Norton Jacobs, justice of the peace for precinct No. 2; Sidney Epperson, constable.

Court adjourned until the first Monday in March next.

Judges fees	\$3.00
Selectmen	4.50
Clerks	2.50

\$9.50

(signed)

J. W. WITT

Judge

THOMAS TODD

Selectman

CHAS. SHELTON

Clerk

When the names of county officials were presented to Brigham Young, acting governor of the territory, the name of John Hamilton was substituted for that of Snelling M. Johnson as sheriff, so Mr. Hamilton was actually the first sheriff of the county. The position of selectman was comparable to that of county commissioner today.

John W. Witt's term as probate judge continued until 1888, during which time many important events transpired in the county.

According to John Crook's journal the population in the valley at the time of county organization was over 1,000 persons. The largest

intendent, appointed by the by the court; a recorder, the court; a prosecuting attorney elected by the people; a Justice for each precinct, elected; two fence viewers in appointed by the court and a precinct.

probate judge in the county organized the county organization es Duke and John H. Van y; Sheriff, Snelling M. John- John Sessions and Thomas

precincts. All the area east of 1 and Thomas Rasband was Palmer as constable. Precinct river, and Horton Jacobs was son was constable. Clerk of

court headed by the Probate e county. By act of Congress land titles, having power to eive titles in return for those ay are still traced back to a

judge and the county court umental bodies began to cen- al Government restricted the ttlement of estates, guardian-

ate or County Court came in by the Legislature to erect a bishment, and in 1878 when alization to adjust tax assess- precinct.

munds-Tucker Act made the the President of the United m the probate to district court. lower away from the probate le an elective position in 1888 nty road offices were consoli- rvisor.

overnment came in 1896 when

Cummings, Barr W. Musser. 1909, E. J. Cummings, Geo. W. Daybell, John W. Moffitt. 1911, E. J. Cummings, George Daybell, John W. Moffitt. 1913, H. W. Harvey, E. J. Cummings, John W. Moffitt. 1915, H. W. Harvey, E. J. Cummings, John M. Ritchie. 1917, Wilford Van Wagoner, E. J. Cummings, John M. Ritchie. 1919, George A. Huntington, H. W. Harvey, John M. Ritchie. 1921, John Van Wagoner, H. W. Harvey, J. Parley Edwards. 1923, John A. Fortie, John M. Ritchie, J. Parley Edwards. 1925, Andrew Murdock, John M. Ritchie, Clark Bronson. 1927, Andrew Murdock, Paul Hunt, Nels J. Johnson. 1929, Jesse Nelson, Paul Hunt, Sumner Hatch. (1931, Jesse Nelson, Guy E. Coleman, Sumner Hatch. 1933, Jesse Nelson, Guy E. Coleman, Sumner Hatch. 1935, Jesse Nelson, Guy E. Coleman, Joseph T. Murdock. 1937, H. Clay Cummings, Guy E. Coleman, George A. Gardner. 1939, H. Clay Cummings, Guy E. Coleman, Jesse Nelson. 1941, Guy E. Coleman, Jesse Nelson, Harry Morris. 1943, Guy E. Coleman, Jesse Nelson, John Anderson. 1945, Guy E. Coleman, Jesse Nelson, John Anderson. 1947, Guy E. Coleman, Floyd Bonner, John Anderson. 1949, Guy E. Coleman, Clyde Ritchie, Heber R. Winterton. 1951, Guy E. Coleman, Clyde Ritchie, Heber R. Winterton. 1953, Guy E. Coleman, James L. Barnes, Heber R. Winterton. 1955, Guy E. Coleman, William J. Bond, James L. Barnes. 1957, Guy E. Coleman, William J. Bond, Elmo A. Jacobsen, 1959, Guy E. Coleman, William J. Bond, Walter Montgomery.

Treasurers having held office are: John M. Murdock, James Duke, William H. McDonald, Joseph Hatch, Robert Duke, Richard Tilt, William McMillan, LaVina Murdock, Millie Witt, Gladys Briggs, Geneva B. Clift, Mabel Murdock, Mary L. Giles, Grace Crook (Buys) June J. Wheeler.

Assessors: John Harvey, Thomas H. Giles, Charles N. Carroll, John Huber, George Giles, J. W. Witt, Thomas Hicken Jr., P. H. McGuire, Jacob Probst, J. Parley Edwards, J. T. Pyper, Guy Duke.

Surveyors: John Sessions, William Buys, S. A. Bond, George Barzee, B. S. Kershaw, Edward Buys, Craig Harmiston, A. R. Duke and Harry A. Doppler.

Recorders and Clerks: Charles Shelton, John Gallagher, T. H. Giles, Joseph A. Murdock, John T. Giles, C. J. Wahlquist, James R. McNaughtan, Thomas S. Watson, James C. Jensen, Charles E. Bronson, Alfred Sharp, Wayne C. Whiting.

Attorneys: Silas Smith, R. Camp, William Buys, M. J. Shelton, W. S. Willes, C. J. Wahlquist, L. C. Montgomery, Edwin D. Hatch, George B. Stanley, Glen S. Hatch, Glen M. Hatch, J. Harold Call, Richard L. Maxfield.

Sheriffs: Snelling A. Johnson, John Hamilton, Richard Jones, John Clyde, J. H. Fraughton, James S. Murdock, W. S. Willis, Robert Clyde, William Bonner, J. O. Wall, Virgil Fraughton, George Durnell, William Murry, Charles McPhie, Eugene D. Payne, Floyd L. Witt.

osity. He was also respected by the Indians because he had reared a young Indian girl and then later married her.

John W. Witt acted as bishop of the ward temporarily for several months and in December, 1867, President Young appointed Abram Hatch of Lehi, Utah County, as the new bishop of the ward.

Near Christmas time he left Utah County with his family and started for Heber and his new calling. It happened to be a very cold, rainy day and the canyon roads were bad, so William Averett, Robert Lindsay and Orson Hicken were dispatched to help the new bishop and his family make the journey.

His coming to the valley opened a new era in the lives of the people, for not only was Bishop Hatch an able Church administrator but he was also a man of sound business and financial judgment. Leaders called in the past had been particularly fitted for the pioneering work of the new area, but the community was established now and growing rapidly. The business experience of Bishop Hatch was to serve the people well during the 33 years he held positions of Church leadership in the area.

In addition to establishing a community store and strengthening the Church organization, Bishop Hatch encouraged the people to build better and more convenient homes and more adequate roads. He also played an important role in construction of a canal that benefitted the people of Heber and vicinity for many years.

During 1872 and 1873 Bishop Hatch directed the building of a social hall on main street. It was used for town meetings, Church services, dances and theatrical performances and served for many years.

Then in 1877 the area had grown sufficiently that the Church officials decided to organize a stake in the area. On July 14 and 15, 1877, Elders John Taylor and Franklin D. Richards of the Council of the Twelve Apostles came to Heber to effect the organization.

Bishop Hatch was called as the first stake president with Thomas H. Giles as first counselor and Henry S. Alexander, second counselor. Charles Shelton was sustained as stake clerk. High councilmen sustained were Joseph S. Murdock, John W. Witt, Isaac Baum, John Muir, James J. Howe, John McDonald, Gustavus Johnson, Henry McMullin, Sr., George W. Brown, Attewall Wootton, Sr., Henry Clegg and Daniel Bigelow.

At the same time Heber was divided into two wards with all those living east of Main Street included in the East Ward and all those west of Main Street in the West Ward. Thomas Rasband was ordained bishop of the East Ward with John Muir and Harmon Cummings as counselors and William Forman was chosen to head the West Ward with John Crook and George T. Giles as his counselors.

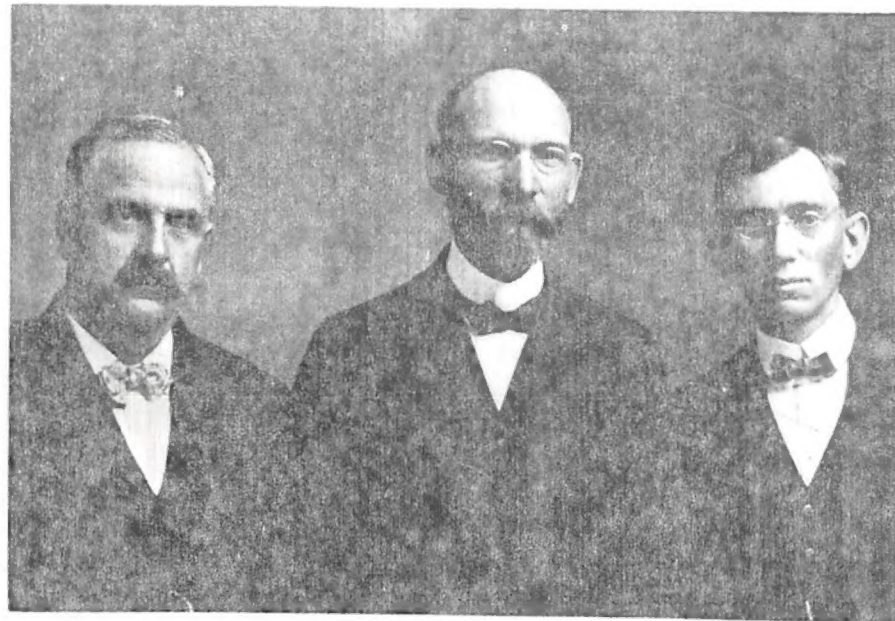
The stake, as organized, extended into Uintah County on the east, north into what is now Summit County and covered all of Wasatch

were removed and the grounds were landscaped much as they are today. About 1930 and 1931 the inside of the building was extensively remodeled. The side galleries and the stand were taken out and the "back room" was replaced with a large stage. A modern heating plant was also installed. This remodeling work was accomplished under the direction of D. A. Broadbent, then stake president.

Abram Hatch served as president of the stake until 1901, a period of 24 years. His counselors served with him during the entire period, while the following were stake clerks: Charles Shelton, 1877 to 1888; Henry Clegg, 1888 to 1893; James H. Moulton, 1893 to 1895; John T. Giles, 1895 to 1899; George T. Harbour, 1899 to 1900 and James H. Moulton, 1900 to 1901.

The accomplishments of President Hatch during the period were legion in religious, civic, business and political capacities. His services will always stand as the backbone of early development and solidarity in the county.

With the release of President Hatch, Church officials appointed President William H. Smart to lead Wasatch Stake. Like President Hatch, the new stake leader was not a native of Provo Valley, but was called by the general authorities to move into the area and preside over the stake. Before coming to Heber, President Smart lived in Franklin, Oneida County, Idaho. His father had pioneered the Idaho community, which was the first white settlement in Idaho.



The second presidency of Wasatch Stake, left to right, Joseph R. Murdock, first counselor; William H. Smart, president and James C. Jensen, second counselor.

ings and ward visits, but they worked together with the wards in gathering, cleaning, mending and boxing clothing for shipment to needy Saints in Europe or other areas.

Sustained on August 17, 1947, was Dove Reese McAfee. She selected as her counselors Luella B. Fitzgerald and Thora M. Schearer, with LaVada Thorn Harrison and Golda Locks Lee as secretaries. This group served together until February 22, 1953, when Relva Ritchie Price was sustained as president, with Faye Coleman McNaughton and Esther Smart as counselors and Mary Bethers, secretary. Other counselors to Sister Price included Mabel Lindsay Anderson and Fern Young. Secretaries also were Marie Popp Carlile and Maurine Henline Carlson.

Faye Coleman McNaughton became the next president, sustained with her counselors Fern Young and Theola Swain on February 19, 1956. Maurine Henline Carlson served as secretary and then later became a counselor and Ella Yeates was called as secretary.

The present president, Maxine Clyde Carlile, was sustained August 31, 1958. Chosen as her counselors were Darlene Probst Shelton of Midway and Joyce Miller Edwards of Charleston. Secretary is Ella Yeates.

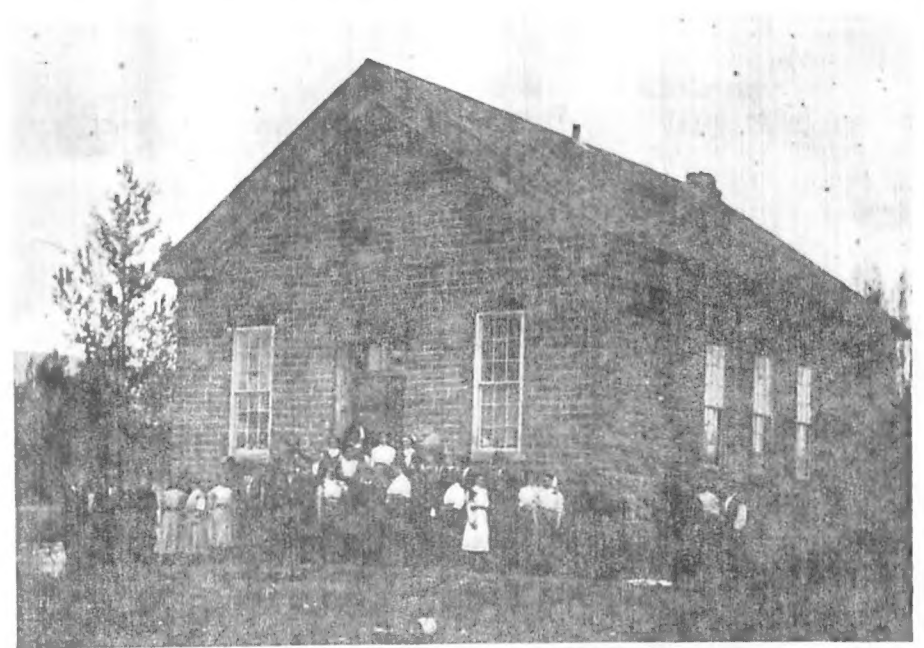
In a new Primary program announced in February, 1961, members of the stake Primary board were released to work in their wards and only a key group were retained on a stake level. Serving on the board are Sister Shelton and Lucy Brandt, counselors, Ella Yeates, secretary, Merle Rasband, music director and LaDene Webb, Scout director.

Space in this history has not permitted full mention of all who have served on the stake boards of the auxiliary organizations, but without their faithful and continued services to the programs of the Church the work in Wasatch Stake most certainly would not have progressed in the manner it has.

Missionary work has been another vital Church activity through the years in Wasatch Stake. The first missionary from the valley was called in 1865. He was Charles Shelton and served in New Brunswick, Canada. He left a wife and children in the valley and labored in the field four years. Thomas Hicken Sr. served on several short missions to Morgan and Kamas Counties in the 1860's.

Few other early missionaries were called from the community until President Brigham Young called several families to go on colonizing missions to help establish new areas. Joseph S. Murdock, then bishop of Heber, was called as a colonizer and to raise cotton in Southern Utah. Others who responded to calls were Addison Hicken, his wife and small daughter Rhoda; John H. Murdock, George Dablin and family of Wallsburg and Moroni Blood and his family of Midway. Many later returned to their homes in the valley, but had to start all over again as they had used up all their resources.

By the 1880's and 1890's missionary calls came more frequently. The calls usually came to married men, often those with large families and



The Sleepy Hollow School, one of Heber's early school buildings.

upper section on the hill near the original James J. Howe ranch, and another in the valley below.

At least two separate schools were maintained in the Midway area, one in the upper and one in the lower settlements before the two joined to form the single Midway community.

In the area north of Heber, three one-room schools were located, one at Riverdale on the corner just north of the Midway road and the intersection of U.S. Highway 40, another near Keetley where the Great Lakes Lumber operation later stood, and the third at Bench Creek above Woodland on the south side of the Provo River.

Wallsburg likewise had a school in the upper valley area known as "Rose Hill" and one on the grounds now occupied by the Wallsburg Ward Chapel.

In these early schools, young people with the ability to read, write and "figure" were used to teach some of the school subjects. John W. Crook, who like his father, John Crook, preserved much of the early history in personal journals, lists the following as some of these teachers:

William Chatwin, Henry Chatwin, C. B. Nugent, David L. Murdoch, Kezia Carroll, Mary Clyde Willis, Thomas Hicken, Jr., Samuel Wing, George Barzee, Margion G. and Charles Shelton, Henry Clegg, Henry Aird, Alfred T. Bond, William Buys, Josephine Cluff, Isabelle Todd Hicken and Heber Moulton.

Others mentioned in the journals who were "imported" or profes-

forced many from their homes, put many hundreds of acres of choice lands under water and brought decline to the community.

For some years the industrial leaders of Utah and the nation had realized the value of a reservoir along Provo River. The growth of Utah's major industrial centers, including Salt Lake City and Provo, created a vast need for water storage and new hydro-electric projects.

Thus, in 1938 work began on a reservoir in the lower part of Wasatch County, known as the Deer Creek project. Three years were required to complete the dam, which held back the water that began to inundate Charleston.

Even though Charleston's landscape has changed considerably over the years, the people have not changed. As the waters began to rise behind the dam, many were forced to move their homes to other areas. However, those who remained have held fast to the fundamental virtues of courage and integrity that have played so great a part in shaping the lives of men.

As far as can be determined, the first two white men to camp in the area of Charleston were Charles Shelton and his brother-in-law, Alex Wilkins. They were surveyors from Provo, and came into the valley to lay out some of the property.

The first settlers to take up land claims in Charleston were George Noakes, William Manning and Mr. Manning's son, Freeman, who were all from Provo. They came in the spring of 1859 and put in a limited crop of grain, but lost the entire crop through frost. William Manning built a log house and corral on his land, which was Charleston's first permanent building. During the winter of 1859-60, Mr. Manning wintered some stock on his ranch.

Others were soon attracted to the Charleston area and began to take up land for homes and farms. Ephraim K. Hanks, an able assistant to President Brigham Young in the pioneer trek of 1847 brought his family to Charleston to settle. Mr. Hanks, noted as a scout and peace-maker among the Indians, was also instrumental in saving the Martin Handcart Company from starvation in the snows of Wyoming.

Early in 1860 John S. McAfee and his family arrived from Scotland and began settling some of the lands near Mr. Hanks. Others who claimed farm land in the Charleston area were John Ritchie, Nymphas C. Murdock, William Wright, Lewis Mecham, Enoch Richins, George W. Brown, John Brown and William Bagley.

The government opened up Charleston to homesteading in 1862 and the records show that John Eldrige was one of the first to receive homestead rights. He died before his homesteading time was completed, but his wife, Sina Eldrige completed the homestead. Others who took out homestead rights in Charleston included David Walker, George Noakes, George T. Giles, Joseph E. Taylor, Stanley Davis, Joseph Bagley, Finity Daybell, Emmanuel Richman, George Simmons, Esther Davies, Joseph Nelson, Isaac Brown, William Winterton, David Young, Eli